

## BIOLOGY AMP

All students must meet the Requirements for the Accelerated Master's Degree Programs (<http://catalogue.uvm.edu/graduate/degree/requirements/requirementsforacceleratedmastersdegreeprograms/>)

### OVERVIEW

An accelerated master's degree in biology can be earned in a shortened time by applying and being accepted in the junior year of undergraduate work. Biology, Zoology, Neuroscience or Environmental Science B.S. majors should discuss this possibility with the department's graduate program director as soon as they think they might be interested in the program. The M.S. is expected to be earned in 1 additional year following completion of the B.S. for students entering the M.S. through the AMP.

Learning goals for M.S. students are:

- Be able to execute scientific experiments, analyze and communicate experimental results orally and in writing.
- Have a working knowledge of the fundamental literature, concepts and ideas of field of study.
- Have a broad factual and conceptual knowledge of biology.

Following formal admission to the Accelerated Master's Entry Program, up to 9 credits of subsequent Biology course work approved for graduate credit taken in the junior and senior year can be counted toward the degree requirement. Courses must be selected from among:

BIOL 204	Adv Genetics Laboratory	4
BIOL 205	Adv Genetics & Proteomics Lab	4
BIOL 209	Field Zoology of Arthropods	0 or 4
BIOL 217	Mammalogy	0 or 4
BIOL 219	Compar/Func Vertebrate Anatomy	4
BIOL 223	Developmental Biology	3
BIOL 254	Population Genetics	0-4
BIOL 255	Comparative Physiology	0 or 4
BIOL 261	Neurobiology	3
BIOL 264	Community Ecology	3
BIOL 266	Neurodevelopment	3
BIOL 271	Evolution	3
BIOL 277	Sociobiology	3

BIOL 372	Cutting Edge Topics	2
BIOL 381	Special Topics (with permission)	0-4

### SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

#### Requirements for Admission to Graduate Studies for the Degree of Master of Science for Accelerated Master's Students

To be eligible for the Accelerated Master's Entry Program, a student must be a declared biological science, zoology, neuroscience or environmental science B.S. major, and have identified a Biology faculty sponsor. Other requirements include a GPA typically higher than 3.10 overall and 3.30 in biology courses. Following admission students are required to take at least three credits of undergraduate research with a Biology faculty member who is the intended research advisor, usually in their senior year. After graduation with the B.S. degree, the M.S. degree becomes their primary curriculum. There is no GRE requirement for applicants entering the M.S. through the AMP.

#### Minimum Degree Requirements

A total of 30 credits, 15 of which must be graded course credits are required (9 of which can also be applied to the undergraduate degree) in biology and related fields; thesis research (up to 15 credits); and successful defense of thesis. Required courses are Scientific Survival Skills and Computational Biology.

#### Comprehensive Examination

The examination will cover broad knowledge of the student's discipline. The details and format of the examination and its form (written or oral or both) are decided upon by the Studies Committee and will be discussed with the student well in advance of the exam. This must take place by the end of the first semester following completion of the B.S. for students admitted under the accelerated entry program.

#### Requirements for Advancement to Candidacy for the Degree of Master of Science

All Biology M.S. students who are admitted to the Graduate College are admitted to candidacy for the degree.